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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DESANTIS).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 5, 2013.

I hereby appoint the Honorable RON DESANTIS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2013, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes each, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

WELCOMING THE 14TH ANNUAL BIKE SUMMIT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, as we wait for the Congress and administration to deal with how to do business differently for defense, for health care, for the Tax Code, we can take a break today as we welcome over 750 men and women from every State in the Union who are here for the 14th Annual Bike Summit. They represent, as you might expect, people from cycling clubs and

the mountain bike industry. There are also dedicated recreational cyclists, those who are involved with bike tourism, which has become very big business, by the way. And speaking of business, there are representatives of bicycle repair, bicycle manufacturers, and others who design, manufacture, and sell equipment and apparel. Bicycles mean business, in my hometown alone over \$150 million of economic activity in a year, employing over 1,000 people.

As the Bike Summit attendees visit Capitol Hill later this week, we will have an opportunity to hear from people of all ages, all walks of life, communities large and small. They are firm in the belief that the Federal Government should be a stronger partner in capitalizing on the most efficient form of urban transportation ever designed.

Bicycles burn calories, not fossil fuel, and take up a 10th of the space of a car. More importantly, for those who drive, every bicycle in the protected bike lane next to you is not a car in front of you or competing for a scarce parking space.

The goal here is to give Americans more choices about how they move, making it safe for children to walk or bike to school. It helps those children, it relieves stress on the family, and can cut 30 percent of the rush-hour congestion. Bicycling helps kids stay active at a time where we are obsessing about a lack of physical activity for our children, a level that is already too low and declining. Bicycling is a natural remedy.

Cities of all size are participating in the bicycle revolution. It would not be nearly as advanced as it is, but for \$8.9 billion of Federal investment since the original ISTEA reauthorization. It has accelerated programs, leveraged other investments and has increased transportation capacity for everybody, and done so more cost effectively than any other expenditure. By the way, \$1 mil-

lion invested in bicycle facilities creates more family-wage jobs than simply constructing more miles of highway.

It is also easier and faster to accomplish. At a time when America has an infrastructure deficit that is in the trillions of dollars, when that infrastructure is falling apart and unreliable, our coalition for policies and resources to rebuild and renew America will be stronger if it includes the millions of Americans who travel by bike.

I strongly urge my colleagues and their staff to take the time to visit with these advocates this week. Hear their stories about transforming communities of all sizes: rural, urban, suburban. Most important, learn how they are giving families safe transportation choices that they never had before. Visit with these cycling leaders. More important, at home, when you are back, get on a bike, walk a trail, join the volunteers, witness an event with your family and talk to the bike businesses and community partners. All of these stakeholders can help us visualize what the Federal partnership could mean in making communities across America more livable and our families safer, healthier, and more economically secure.

HONORING MRS. ANN MARIE KILCOURSE WILSON OF JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ROTHFUS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Ann Marie Kilcourse Wilson of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, an extraordinary woman. She passed away on February 19, 2013, at the all-too-young age of 47, following a brief and courageous battle with cancer.

Mrs. Wilson could have been anyone's daughter, anyone's wife, anyone's

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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mother, co-worker, employer, or fellow church member. She was extraordinary because she excelled in each of these roles. She was a woman for all seasons.

Ann Wilson was born in 1965 in the Bronx of Irish stock, the daughter of Thomas and Francis Kilcourse. She graduated from St. John the Baptist High School in West Islip, New York, and earned a degree in political science from the Catholic University of America. She worked in New York City before moving to Johnstown, the hometown of her husband, Bill.

In the mountains of western Pennsylvania, this daughter of the Bronx became an adopted daughter of Johnstown, and she has thrived there. She brought into the world three beautiful children: Katie, Billy, and Clara, whom she and Bill loved dearly. And while she was raising her family, Ann pursued her professional calling with excellence and determination as the marketing director of The Gleason Agency.

Her energy was incomparable. The energy of her professional work could also be seen in her commitment to public service. In 2005, Ann made her first attempt at public office and won a 4-year term on the Johnstown City Council. She took the oath of office in January 2006 and was the first Republican woman elected to the council. Notably, Ann was the top vote-getter on the ticket, beating out seven incumbents. In a city where Democrats outnumber Republicans 7-3, she was the top vote-getter, demonstrating her broad bipartisan appeal.

□ 1010

She was reelected in 2009 and appointed deputy mayor of Johnstown in January of 2010. She also served as executive director and later chairman of the Cambria County Republican Committee. In 2012, Governor Tom Corbett appointed her to the Pennsylvania Commission for Women, and she was elected as a delegate to the 2012 Republican National Convention.

While her energy and professional accomplishments were remarkable, the two things that mattered most to her were her family and her church. Mrs. Wilson lived for her husband and children, and she rarely missed a sporting or school event that involved the kids. She loved family time and family vacations, and she was deeply committed to her Catholic faith. She was also a strong advocate for the right to life and compassion for all.

In a world and time given to cynicism and doubt, Ann Wilson stands out in stark contrast. She is a role model for excellence in family life, professional work, and community engagement. Indeed, she was full of passion for the things of life that really mattered.

It is a privilege to stand here today to remember Mrs. Ann Wilson of Johnstown, Pennsylvania. Her family's and Johnstown's loss is Heaven's gain. May she rest in peace and may her family be comforted in their loss. She

will be missed not only by her husband and children, but by her community.

PROJECT EXILE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the talk around town is the paranoid gun control crowd that want more gun restrictions and more government control over guns.

If they had their way, some of them would actually outlaw the Second Amendment, and the result would be that the people would have no guns. The only ones that would have guns would be the government and, of course, criminals who ignore gun laws. I call it the "Mexico model."

Guns are outlawed in Mexico. The citizens cannot possess guns. There is no Second Amendment and so the government has guns and criminals have guns. Some of those criminals have guns thanks in part to the United States Government sending 2,000 assault weapons to them in *Fast and Furious*. But that's another story.

U.S. cities are moving toward the Mexico model. Chicago and Washington, D.C., have laws that make it very difficult for a citizen to exercise the Second Amendment. These cities make it difficult to even own a firearm. But all three places—Mexico, Chicago, Washington, D.C.—all have a reputation of being violent, unsafe places. Why? Because they are.

If D.C. was so safe, why are government guards everywhere in the city? Even here in this Capitol building, there are armed guards on the roof, at the doors, at the back doors, at the doors over to the east and to the west. It's hypocritical of the gun control crowd in this Chamber to say "more guns for me, but not for thee."

If these cities were safe, gun control laws would work, but they don't work. But there is a Federal law that the city of Richmond, Virginia, took advantage of, and it goes back to 1997. Richmond, Virginia, was one of the top five U.S. cities with the highest per capita murder rate in the United States. So the city used a Federal law to help them control the crime problem. Project Exile is the name. The local and State government voluntarily cooperated with the United States Attorney's Office in gun prosecutions.

Here's how it works: if a local or State law enforcement official arrested some criminal for a felony offense but the person also had a gun, the State official could voluntarily transfer the case to Federal court because in Federal court the person could be prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office and get an additional 5 years in the Federal penitentiary because the criminal, the drug dealer, had a firearm in their possession.

It's a simple plan that worked quite well. In fact, it worked so well that in the first year Richmond, Virginia's

homicide rate was down 33 percent. By 1999, homicides in Richmond, Virginia, were down 97 percent—all because the criminal was prosecuted for unlawfully possessing a firearm and the government put their resources where they should: prosecuting criminals that use guns in the commission of their offense.

The law held the criminal accountable and exiled him out of the community. That's where the phrase "Project Exile" comes from. He was exiled from the community to the Federal penitentiary where other criminals were.

Lock the gun-toting crooks up and send them away. What a novel idea: a law that's already on the books. Maybe violent cities like Chicago and Washington, D.C., should look at Project Exile and hold criminals accountable for the violence that they commit and not be misguided by some who continue to assault the Second Amendment and not punish criminals.

Maybe our system should focus on the person who commits the crime with the weapon as opposed to trying to punish really good folks that own firearms and exercise their right under the Second Amendment to bear arms.

And that's just the way it is.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 16 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Gracious God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

In this Chamber, where the people's House gathers, we pause to offer You gratitude for the gift of this good land on which we live and for this great Nation which You have inspired in developing over so many years. Continue to inspire the American people, that through the difficulties of these days, we might keep liberty and justice alive in our Nation and in the world.

Grant an extra measure of wisdom and perseverance to the Members of this House, that the difficulties facing our Nation might be addressed to the benefit of all.

Give to us and all people a vivid sense of Your presence, that we may learn to understand each other, to respect each other, to work with each other, to live with each other, and to do good to each other. So shall we